MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR & DIRECTOR

Dear Friends of the Community Foundation,

We are very pleased to present the Annual Report of the Community Foundation of Chippewa County. This report details the fiscal year of activity from July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019. You are invited to look at the stories of impact as well as the stories about giving.

As you know, greater giving strengthens communities and transforms lives. Your Community Foundation of Chippewa County was created in 2001 by and for the people of Chippewa County to make our communities better for everyone. We continue to do just that today by combining the passion, resources, time, talent, and hard work of hundreds of individuals – including generous people like you. We are fortunate that Chippewa County has embraced the values of taking care of each other in times of need and supporting each other in times of celebration.

The generosity of donors is vital to the success of your Community Foundation. As you review this report, take note of the individuals, families, businesses, and organizations that we are honored to call our partners. Together, community nonprofits and donors are strengthening your community and your Foundation.

As we look to the future, we realize that local needs are increasing and continued growth of your Foundation is necessary to meet this challenge, therefore making permanently endowed contributions more important than ever. We invite you to invest in that which matters to you most, your community, its' beautiful people, places, and partnerships. Ask any one of our Board Members how you can create a new fund or give to an existing one and support the current and future needs of this precious place we call home.

DEAN WHITE
Board Chair

JILL HERRIGES
Executive Director

Serving Chippewa County
Bloomer • Boyd • Cadott • Chippewa Falls • Cornell • Holcombe
Jim Falls • Lafayette • Lake Hallie • New Auburn • Stanley • Tilden

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OUR MISSION
To enable donors to achieve their philanthropic goals, to meet changing community needs, thereby benefiting the communities, people, and other nonprofit organizations of Chippewa County.

Creating, building, and managing endowed funds to benefit the people of Chippewa County.
We will accomplish this by listening and staying connected to donors, maintaining trust and credibility, and remaining flexible in our approach.

The Community Foundation of Chippewa County will be recognized as a trusted leader by encouraging philanthropy, delivering the highest quality donor services, and being a collaborative partner and leader in addressing important issues that will strengthen Chippewa County now and well into the future.

OUR VISION

CURRENT FUNDS

July 1, 2018 thru June 30, 2019
Funds have been established by individuals, families, businesses, and organizations to benefit the people of Chippewa County.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FUNDS

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OPERATING FUND
Gifts to this fund support the operations of the Community Foundation, ensuring the continuation of our work throughout Chippewa County.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT FUND
Unrestricted Fund; accepts gifts for endowment, including otherwise undesignated memorial and tribute gifts and bequests; supports our Community Needs Grants that are made at the discretion of the Foundation’s Board of Directors.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION BOARD GRANT FUND
Unrestricted Fund; supports our Community Needs Grants; grants are made at the discretion of the Foundation’s Board of Directors.

ENDOWED FUNDS - PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED
An Endowment Fund is managed, invested and kept in perpetuity to provide earnings for the benefit of a charitable cause on behalf of an individual, family, organization, or business.

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS
Unrestricted funds enable our foundation to address our region’s changing needs by increasing Community Needs grant awards and undertaking new community initiatives. These funds are vital for the support of many local nonprofit organizations that enhance our quality of life.

CUSTER FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND
DARLEY FAMILY FOUNDATION FUND
FISH FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND
J. MURRAY AND CRYSTAL GORDON ENDOWMENT FUND
BOB AND DONNA HOGSETH SUNSHINE ENDOWMENT FUND
JOSEPH W. JOAS UNRESTRICTED ENDOWMENT FUND
GERALD AND ELAINE MANN ENDOWMENT FUND
MILDRED “PENNY” C. MARS MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUND
CARMEN AND GENE MOWER FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND
MARCUS MYRMAN AND MARCENE O’BRIEN-MYRMAN FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND
WILLIAM AND NANCY PICKERIGN FAMILY FUND
*SUGAR FAMILY COUNTRY TREASURES ENDOWMENT FUND
SHEILA AND BILL VOLKER UNRESTRICTED ENDOWMENT FUND
BETTY AND DEAN WHITE FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND

* Indicates a new fund was established during the 2018-2019 fiscal year.
This family of unrestricted funds support areas of interest that may include: arts and culture, community development, education, environment and animal welfare, and health and human services. The Community Foundation of Chippewa County Board awards Community Needs Grants to organizations and programs that are making a difference in the area the fund holder wishes.

LUKE BATHKE SPECIAL EDUCATION ENDOWMENT FUND Grants support students in special education programs.

JIM AND JACKIE BERNIER ENDOWMENT FUND Grants support Chippewa County Veterans Services.

ROBERT AND FRANCES BOWE AND FRED R. BOWE MEMORIAL FUND Grants support sustainable and nature-related endeavors in Chippewa County.

DR. BERTHA M. BRESINA ENDOWMENT FUND Grants benefit Chippewa County students wanting to obtain a Catholic (K-12) education.

DENNIS AND BONNIE FERSTENOEN FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND Grants support operational and capital expenditures for food security, community tables, and nonprofit organizations that provide food security in Chippewa County.

HEYDE HEALTH SYSTEM FUND Grants support nonprofit organizations providing spiritual, musical, or cultural arts programs for nursing home residents in Chippewa County.

ROLAND AND HELEN IRWIN ENDOWMENT FUND Grants support endeavors that help clean Chippewa County waterways.

GERALD H. AND ANN C. JACOBSON FUND Grants support wildlife, its habitat, or parks in Chippewa County.

MARY AND JERRY JACOBSON FAMILY FUND Grants support youth in Chippewa County.

RUSS AND GLORIA KAZDA ENDOWMENT FUND Grants generated by this fund, created in memory of Russ and Gloria’s son Chad Kazda, are directed to nonprofit organizations that provide programs addressing issues associated with mental illness, particularly depression.

CAREY B. KELL ENDOWMENT FUND Grants support beautification in Chippewa Falls.

CHEF AND IRENE LINDSEY ENDOWMENT FUND Established for their parents by Ann and Dave Gordon; grants support humanitarians, cultural, aesthetic, recreational, environmental, civic, and educational needs in Chippewa Falls and the Lake Wissota area.

EDWIN AND EVELYN NYHUS CENTENNIAL FUND Grants support agencies and institutions primarily serving the City of Chippewa Falls, with projects, programs and services related to public libraries, public parks and recreation, youth, senior citizen welfare, animal welfare, and community health.

PATRICIA QUIGLEY-ANDERSON ENDOWMENT FUND Grants support dental health care and education.

SANDRA AND ROGER ROBARGE FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND Grants support education and/or community development endeavors in the Holcombe and Cornell area.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SERVICE ENDOWMENT FUND Grants support youth community service activities and programs of Chippewa County nonprofit organizations.

CHARLES J. AND SALLY E. SMITH CORNELL COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT FUND Grants support the betterment of the Cornell community.

DR. MAHMOUD TAMAN ENDOWMENT FUND Grants support mental health, urgent medical and social needs.

THE WANE FIRE SAFETY AND PREVENTION ENDOWMENT FUND Grants support fire prevention, safety, smoke detector, or fire victim assistance programs.

WARREN AND VIRGINIA WERMUND ENDOWMENT FUND Grants support youth in Chippewa County.

THE YOUTH OF LAKE HOLCOMBE ENDOWMENT FUND Grants support programs involving Lake Holcombe youth, both inside the school and community programs outside of school.

● Indicates a new fund was established during the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

JIM AND JACKIE BERNIER ENDOWMENT FUND

Jim, a Vietnam veteran, and Jackie, a founding board member of the Community Foundation of Chippewa County (CFCC), know firsthand what other veterans go through, their experiences and the sacrifices they make. Wanting to do something to provide assistance to other veterans, they were inspired by Jake Leinenkugel at the fair. “I saw Jake buying a lot of cows,” says Jim Bernier. “And I learned that the meat would be donated to veterans which made us think more about what we could do as well.” They decided to start a fund serving Chippewa County Veterans. The Jim and Jackie Bernier Endowment Fund is a field of interest fund that will provide assistance to programs that support Chippewa County Veterans. Jackie Bernier’s involvement with the CFCC made it a natural fit for the fund. “You can put some money in a fund, leave that fund sitting there and every year a percentage gets distributed to other nonprofits,” notes Jackie. “We always thought we would do it, just a matter of when.”

Jim’s service in the Marine Corps created a strong personal connection to veterans in Chippewa County. Prior to his deployment as a Vietnamese linguist, Jim spent a year in school learning the language. Once in Vietnam, his job with the 1st offensive in 1968 and all who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our country, we want to help those who made it home.”

“My sisters and I began another fund in the name of my parents and brother at the beginning of the Foundation,” says Jackie. “But we thought it was time we do our own. This was a good fit. It feels good.”

This fund will ensure veterans like Jim are acknowledged and receive the help they need from the resources that are available. Jim and Jackie plan to help the fund grow whenever they are able.
Upon moving back to Stanley, Alice practiced at Victory Memorial Hospital and a physicians’ office. Bill sold insurance for the Business Men’s Assurance and Security Life insurance companies. They raised two children, Joy and Jay, who both graduated from Stanley-Boyd High School. Joy was a wrestling cheerleader and band member while Jay played football, wrestled and ran track.

After high school, Joy followed in her mother’s footsteps, graduating with a nursing degree from UW-Eau Claire. She later earned her Ph.D. in nursing and became a nurse educator, retiring in 2017. She and her husband, Dr. Peter Wachs, have two daughters: Alison, an industrial engineer, and Meredith, a secondary math teacher.

Jay played varsity football for UW-La Crosse, where he earned a business degree. He returned to Stanley after college and is father to Kyle, Karla, and Lyndsey, who each played three varsity sports in high school. Kyle played varsity football at UW-Eau Claire. Karla played on the Wisconsin state championship volleyball team in high school and managed the varsity volleyball team at Marquette University in Milwaukee. Lyndsey was a Wisconsin state shot put champion and an All-American hammer thrower at the University of Minnesota.

Kyle is married to the former Holly Mertens who played three sports at Stanley-Boyd. Holly played on the state championship volleyball team, was the long jump state champion and was an All-American volleyball player at Marquette University. They have two children, August and Otto, who are the next generation of Thorpe athletes.

Bill and Alice Thorpe would be delighted that in 2019 the scholarship endowment moved to the Community Foundation of Chippewa County. Their legacy will encourage Stanley-Boyd High School graduates to pursue post-secondary education and athletic competition.

DOLORES BARNIER EDUCATION FUND Grants provide scholarships to graduating seniors of Chippewa Falls Senior High School.

BEIJIN FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND Grants support Holy Ghost Parish in Chippewa Falls.

BLOOMER SCHOOL DISTRICT ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS Grants support scholarships for students from the Bloomer School District: • RM Dewitt Memorial Scholarship Fund • Alice M. Hanson Memorial Scholarship Fund • Archie and Ardella Pecha Family Scholarship Fund

SLOANE J. BREHMER ENDOWMENT FUND Grants support organizations of donor’s choice.

JOHN ANDREW CARLSON MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUND Grants support the Student Emergency Fund at CVTC.

ROLF CHANCE MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUND Grants support the care and maintenance of housing for the monkeys at Irvine Park.

CHIPEWAS MORaine ICE AGE RESERVE ENDowEMENT FUND Grants support the mission and activities of the Chippewa Moraine Ice Age Reserve.

PATI J AND JEFF DARLEY FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND Grants support organizations of donor’s choice.

SUE DECKER THEATRE ENDOWMENT FUND Grants support scholarships for McDonell Central Catholic High School students who’ve participated in school musicals, Chippewa Falls Senior High School’s Thespian Drama Club, and the Heyde Center for the Arts in Chippewa Falls, designated for local theater productions.

BOB AND LEA DIRKS COAST TO COAST HARDWARE STORE ENDOWMENT FUND Grants support First Presbyterian Church, Chippewa Falls Main Street Flower Fund, Heyde Center for the Arts Flag Fund, and Irvine Park Zoo.

EARLY RISER KIWANIS ENDOWMENT FOR HUNGER FUND Grants provide support to Agnes’ Table, a community meal program for people of Chippewa County dealing with hunger issues.

GEORGE AND PEGGY FLEMING FAMILY FUND Grants support organizations of donor’s choice.

GEORGE AND JACQUELINE GANNON FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND Grants support capital improvements at Gannon Field in Casper Park.

GIRL SCOUTS CAMP NAWAKWA ENDOWMENT FUND Grants support the Girl Scouts Camp Nawakwa in Chippewa County.

ALICE HAGEN EDUCATION ENDOWMENT FUND Grants benefit the Chippewa Area Mentor Program.

BARBARA F. HARPER ENDOWMENT FUND Grants support St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church and the Chippewa County Humane Association.

LES AND MARILYN HARRISON FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND Grants support organizations of donor’s choice.

DOLORES SCHINDLER HEBERT HISTORY & GENEALOGY FUND Grants support the Chippewa County Genealogical Society and the Chippewa County Historical Society.

RAY AND ULENE HELGERSON EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENT FUND Grants provide additional funding for educational programs, activities, musical instruments, materials, equipment, opportunities and/or experiences for students in K-12 in Chippewa County public schools; particularly for students from families in financial need.

** Indicates a fund became endowed during the 2018-2019 fiscal year.
N. JOIE HERTZFELD
ENDOWMENT FUND
Grants will be used to award scholarships to students through the Chippewa Falls Area Historical Foundation for students wishing to pursue an education in art and design.

JAMES AND AMELIA HOPKINS – MASONIC LODGE F. & A.M. NO. 176 EDUCATIONAL FUND
Grants provide scholarships for worthy children who are residents of Chippewa County.

IRON WILL ENDOWMENT FUND
Grants support Marshfield Clinic Health System Foundation for transportation assistance to families with medically fragile children facing urgent and time-critical situations.

IRVINE PARK ENDOWMENT FUND
Grants support improvements to Irvine Park.

WILLIAM IRVINE ENDOWMENT FUND
Grants support maintenance to Irvine Park.

JOSEPH W. JOAS DESIGNATED ENDOWMENT FUND
Grants support organizations of donor’s choice.

THOMAS J. JOAS AND JULIE A. JOAS ENDOWMENT FUND
Grants support organizations of donor’s choice.

TOM AND PAM KELL FAMILY FUND
Grants support organizations of donor’s choice.

JAMES & MARGARET KERN MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUND
Grants support scholarships for McDonell Central Catholic High School graduates, selected by teachers, with an emphasis on first-generation university-bound seniors.

KIWANIS CLUB OF CHIPPEWA FALLS PEGGY RATHBUN MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUND
Grants provide scholarships for students pursuing a technical education.

LOOPY AND LORI KLEICH ENDOWMENT FUND
The fund holder is working with the Community Foundation on the parameters of this fund.

LAKE WISSOTA IMPROVEMENT AND PROTECTION ENDOWMENT FUND
Grants support efforts to preserve Lake Wissota and protect its surroundings, enhance the water quality, fishery, boating safety, and the aesthetic value of Lake Wissota as a public recreational facility.

ARLENE AND GENE A. LOPAS ENVIRONMENTAL AND HISTORICAL FUND
Grants support organizations of donor’s choice.

HAROLD D. “MAC” MCDONALD ENDOWMENT FUND
Grants support the Chippewa County Historical Society’s annual “The Past Passed Here” event. The remaining amount available to grant is left to the discretion of the Foundation’s Board of Directors.

IRMA M. AND VINCENT E. MILLER ENDOWMENT FUND
Grants support projects and programs related to the historical preservation of the Cadott community through the Cadott Area Historical Society. Grants also support the habitat, wildlife, environmental, and nature-related endeavors at Otter Lake through the Otter Lake Booster Club.

BILL OLSON ENDOWMENT FUND
Grants support organizations of donor’s choice.

HOWARD L. AND JOANNE M. OLSON FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND
Grants support special events sponsored by Chippewa Partners.

JOHN R. AND ELLEN A. O’NEIL ENDOWMENT FUND
Grants support organizations of donor’s choice.

OPERATION BACKPACK FOR ENDANGERED CHILDREN ENDOWMENT FUND
Grants will be used by Chippewa County authorities to purchase items to hand out to children who are taken from their homes during the emergency time of removal.

SENN FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND
Grants provide scholarships through the Chippewa County Department of Health and Human Services to students pursuing a technical education.

PAUL WALTER SCHAUS, M.D. ENDOWMENT FUND
Grants support professional training opportunities for Foundation staff members.

MARVIN AND RITA TANZER FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND
Grants support organizations of donor’s choice.

* Indicates a new fund was established during the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

AUTUMN COMMUNITY SUNSHINE FUND

Like a ray of sunshine, Autumn Helgeson filled lives with warmth and joy. Autumn Community Sunshine Fund has been established by us – Brad, Kim and Brooklyn Helgeson – in honor of our daughter and sister, Autumn Helgeson. This is a donor-advised fund supporting an array of interests, including youth, education, animals, and the arts.

We started the fund to honor Autumn and our family’s commitment to helping others. Our purpose is to use Autumn’s joy and what we call “sunshine and sparkle” to promote good works in our community now and in the future.

Autumn died while performing an act of service to her Chippewa Falls community. Our family wants to honor and carry forward her spirit of service, love, and giving. Her favorite community event was preparing and serving food at Agnes’ Table alongside our church friends. As a family, we believe in giving to our community. We believe we must instill a sense of commitment to our community and show our children that we can, and we must, help others. Through the years we have been fortunate to help or be part of The Open Door Clinic, Agnes’ Table, youth activities and education through Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church, Spirit of Christmas, Hallie Girls Softball, Chippewa Bowhunters Club, YMAC, the Eau Claire Community Foundation Women’s Giving Circle Fund and the Girl Scouts.

We became aware of the concept of Community Foundation efforts when a friend started a fund in their daughter’s name, as well our involvement with the Women’s Giving Circle Fund with the Eau Claire Community Foundation. The idea of coming together with other individuals who wanted to promote the same investments in our communities was uplifting and exciting.
BILL AND ALICE THORPE MEMORIAL ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIP FUND
Grants provide scholarships for Stanley-Boyd High School students.

TROOP #3055 MEMORIAL FUND
The fund holders are working with the Community Foundation on the parameters of this fund.

DORIS VENNARD NURSING ENDOWMENT FUND
Grants provide scholarships to worthy and needy Chippewa County High School graduates who are pursuing a degree in the nursing profession.

SHEILA AND BILL VOLKER CITY OF CHIPPEWA FALLS POLICE, FIRE, AND EMERGENCY SERVICES ENDOWMENT FUND
Grants support the City of Chippewa Falls Police Department, and Fire and Emergency Services Department to be used for equipment and community relations.

SHEILA AND BILL VOLKER IRVINE PARK ENDOWMENT FUND
Grants support improvements at Irvine Park.

WELCOME TO CHIPPEWA FALLS U.S. FLAG ENDOWMENT FUND
Grants support the purchase, display, and maintenance of the large flag flown on the East Hill in front of the Heyde Center for the Arts.

WISCONSIN TREE IDENTIFICATION FUND
Grants support permanent identification and the purchasing of indigenous trees of Wisconsin found in Irvine Park and along the bike trail in downtown Chippewa Falls.

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS
Donor Advised funds allow fund holders to be actively involved in providing annual grant recommendations for consideration by the Foundation’s Board of Directors. Grants from the following Donor Advised Funds provide support to area nonprofit organizations and programs recommended by the fund holders.

- AUTUMN COMMUNITY SUNSHINE FUND
- DENNIS AND JEANNE BOISVERT FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND
- CALLAHAN FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND
- CHIPPEWA COUNTY AGRICULTURAL ADVANCEMENT FUND
- GRIENAPP FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND
- PAT AND GARY GRAY FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND
- GREENHALGH MEMORIAL MUSIC ENDOWMENT FUND
- JOHN AND MARY HOFKES FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND
- DONNA & BOB HOGSETH FAMILY FALLS YOUTH ENDOWMENT FUND
- PETER AND SUE HOLM FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND
- HULS ENDOWMENT FUND
- DAN AND LINDA HUNT FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND
- HAROLD AND MARIAN HUNT FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND
- DAVID AND PATRICIA JANKOSKI FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND
- KIEFER FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND
- KIWARIS CLUB OF CHIPPEWA FALLS ENDOWMENT FUND
- KOEHN FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND
- BILL AND MARY LOU LEINENKUGEL ENDOWMENT FUND
- JACOB LEINENKUGEL BREWING CO. EMPLOYEE ENDOWMENT FUND
- JAKE AND PEGGY LEINENKUGEL FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND
- LIVING LAND ENDOWMENT FUND
- JOHN A. AND JANE E. MASON LUBS FAMILY FUND
- JODIE MUELLER FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND
- RIDE ON RILEY FUND
- FRANK SCHLICK MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUND
- STANLEY COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT FUND
- SKIP AND JILL THALER FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND
- JAMES AND ARLENE WRIGHT FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND
- JASON S. ZUNKER MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUND

* Indicates a new fund was established during the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

AGENCY FUNDS
Nonprofit agencies and organizations may establish Endowment Funds with the Foundation to serve the purposes of their organization into perpetuity. Grants are used to support their organization.

- ALS SUPPORT GROUP OF NW WISCONSIN FUND
- BEYOND BOOMERS CLASS REUNION ASSOCIATION ENDOWMENT FUND
- CARING FOR FOREST HILL CEMETERY FUND
- CHIPPEWA AREA MENTOR PROGRAM ENDOWMENT FUND
- CHIPPEWA AREA MENTOR PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIP FUND
- CHIPPEWA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY ENDOWMENT FUND
- CHIPPEWA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY ENDOWMENT FUND
- CHIPPEWA COUNTY HUMANE ASSOCIATION ENDOWMENT FUND
- CHIPPEWA FALLS AREA SENIOR CENTER MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUND
- CHIPPEWA FALLS AREA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT VOYAGER ENDOWMENT FUND
- CHIPPEWA FALLS HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC BOOSTER CLUB ENDOWMENT FUND
- CHIPPEWA FALLS HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES ENDOWMENT FUND
- CHIPPEWA FALLS HIGH SCHOOL CARDINAL ENDOWMENT FUND
- CHIPPEWA FALLS MUSEUM OF INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGY COLLECTIONS FUND
- CHIPPEWA FALLS MUSEUM OF INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGY ENDOWMENT FUND
- CHIPPEWA FALLS PARKS, RECREATION, AND FORESTRY ENDOWMENT FUND
- CHIPPEWA FALLS PUBLIC LIBRARY ENDOWMENT FUND
- CHIPPEWA RIVER INDUSTRIES EMPOWERMENT FUND
- CHIPPEWA VALLEY CULTURAL ASSOCIATION ENDOWMENT FUND
- CHIPPEWA YOUTH HOCKEY ASSOCIATION KIDS ON ICE ENDOWMENT FUND
- COOK RUTLEDGE MANSION ENDOWMENT FUND
- FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER ENDOWMENT FUND
- LAKE WISSOTA STATE PARK ENDOWMENT FUND
- NORTHERN WISCONSIN STATE FAIR ENDOWMENT FUND
- SCHOOL DISTRICT OF GILMANS ELLIES FUND
- STANLEY AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ENDOWMENT FUND
- UNITED WAY OF THE GREATER CHIPPEWA VALLEY ENDOWMENT FUND
- JOHN WILSON MUSIC ENDOWMENT FUND

* Indicates a new fund was established during the 2018-2019 fiscal year.
SEEDLING FUNDS

A Seedling Fund is a vehicle that allows donors (or charitable and other tax-exempt organizations) to build a named fund now, then bring it to the endowed level over time with either lifetime or estate gifts. Creating a Seedling Fund is a great alternative for donors who want to build their charitable assets over time while meeting their philanthropic goals.

- DIETMAR R. BRAUNE SEEDLING FUND
  To be determined; the family is working with the Community Foundation to establish the parameters of this fund.

- BRUNET ISLAND STATE PARK SEEDLING FUND
  Designated Fund; established in memory of Melvin and Betty Gosse, grants will support the quality of the park’s programs and will provide the little extras to park visitors that make their experience unique and special.

- CHIPEWAA COUNTY ADULT AND FAMILY LITERACY SEEDLING FUND
  Designated Fund; grants will be used by Literacy Volunteers – Chippewa Valley to provide services and programs supporting Chippewa County adult and family literacy.

- CHIPEWAA FALLS MAIN STREET SEEDLING FUND
  Agency Fund; distributions will support operations and programs of Chippewa Falls Main Street.

- JACK AND DOROTHY CHRISTENSEN FAMILY EDUCATION SEEDLING FUND
  Field of Interest Fund; grants will support a wide variety of educational efforts and programs.

- EUGENE AND JACOLYN CODY SEEDLING FUND
  Designated Fund; grants will support organizations of donor’s choice.

- CORNELL COMMUNITY FAMILY SEEDLING FUND
  Donor Advised Fund; grants will support nonprofit organizations that serve the Cornell community.

- JIM AND KRIS DIMOCK SEEDLING FUND
  Field of Interest; grants will support the area of education.

- LLOYD AND ARNETTA ECKES FAMILY SEEDLING FUND
  Designated Fund; grants will be designated to support Irvine Park. Initiated in memory of all former employees of Chippewa Shoe Company (1903-1984).

- JAN AND JIM ESLINGER SEEDLING FUND
  Unrestricted Fund; funds will be used for grant-making at the discretion of the Foundation’s Board of Directors.

- ROBERT “RUSTY” GILLES YOUTH AGRICULTURAL SEEDLING FUND
  Field of Interest Fund; grants will support scholarships or grant awards to allow young adults to attend or participate in agricultural-related conferences, seminars, or training opportunities.

- GREAT NORTHERN CORPORATION SEEDLING FUND
  Designated Fund; grants will support organizations of donor’s choice.

- RICK AND HEATHER HUNT FAMILY SEEDLING FUND
  Field of Interest Fund; grants will support programs for victims of domestic violence, especially children; extracurricular and academic activities/programs for grades 6 through 12; and legal assistance for the poor.

- BOB AND CATH LEA SEEDLING FUND
  Donor Advised Fund; grants will support organizations recommended by fund advisors.

- MATTHEW (MOGEY) AND JENNIFER MCDONOUGH FAMILY SEEDLING FUND
  Designated Fund; grants will support organizations of donor’s choice.

- MCDOWELL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SEEDLING FUND
  Designated Fund; grants will support organizations recommended by fund advisors.

- DENNIS AND CAROLE MICKESH SEEDLING FUND
  To be determined; the family is working with the Community Foundation to establish the parameters of this fund.

- NEW AUBURN SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOLARSHIP SEEDLING FUND
  Designated Fund; grants will support scholarships for graduates from the New Auburn School District.

- DAVID AND AMANDA SCHAFFER FAMILY SEEDLING FUND
  Designated Fund; grants will support organizations of donor’s choice.

- ROLAND SHAURETTE MEMORIAL SEEDLING FUND
  Designated Fund; grants will support organizations of donor’s choice.

- MARY BETH AND DAVE SPOONER SEEDLING FUND
  Designated Fund; grants will support organizations of donor’s choice.

* Indicates a new fund was established during the 2018-2019 fiscal year.
Zach Schmidtknecht views Great Northern Corporation’s new seedling fund as an opportunity for employees to continue giving to their community beyond their terms of employment.

“Giving back to the community is what we are. It’s been instilled in us by past generations of leaders, and it’s now our responsibility to carry it forward,” said Schmidtknecht, general manager of GNC’s Chippewa Falls plant, 421 Palmer Street.

Sarah Rogers, customer service manager at the plant, presented the idea of the Great Northern Corporation Seedling Fund to its GNC Cares committee. A former employee of the Community Foundation of Chippewa County, Rogers said the organization is responsible with funds and understands the community’s needs.

“We believe it is a good fit for us,” she said.

GNC is one of the nation’s largest independent producers of packaging and in-store displays. The Chippewa Falls plant has 260 employees.

The business already actively supports community organizations such as United Way, Junior Achievement, and ball teams as well as local events such as a concert night at Riverfront Park and food, clothing, Christmas toys, and school supplies drives, Schmidtknecht and Rogers said.

“We have determined that we would like it to serve the community as needed,” Rogers said, adding the fund is open to anyone who wants to make a donation.

Many of the plant’s employees live in Chippewa County, and the fund reaches out beyond Chippewa Falls to meet needs, she noted.

“I’m just excited to see it grow and (for) Great Northern to be part of this avenue of giving back to the community,” Rogers said.

GNC has committed $2,000 a year for the next five years to the unrestricted fund, which will be used for grant-making at the discretion of the Foundation’s board of directors.
With high school graduates facing the ever-increasing costs of post-secondary education, offering opportunity and financial assistance to students is an ideal many have but one that New Auburn School District is making a reality.

“We want to help students look to the future and let them know we can help meet the cost of their academic needs, a cost that is continually growing,” notes Brenda Scheil, AgriScience Instructor and FFA Advisor at New Auburn School District.

The New Auburn School District Scholarship Seedling Fund is a designated fund that will help graduates of the New Auburn School District who are pursuing post-secondary education. Recognizing that opportunities are not as prevalent in a small community, the fund, once endowed, has a goal of offering a scholarship to every student who plans to continue their education, especially students who may not be eligible for other scholarships.

“New Auburn is a small community that only has so many dollars offered as grants. There are just not as many opportunities in such a small community,” says Scheil.

Beyond offering scholarships, the fund is teaching all New Auburn students about the power of belief and building a community. “Projects like this increase the strength of community and working with The Foundation has shown that when a community comes together, we can do anything,” says Jerrett Kowalski, New Auburn School District School Counselor. The District has observed a positive spirit among students as they consider education beyond high school with excitement rather than hesitation.

Current students are viewing the pathways of former students and see them come back to donate. This is a lasting impression that will strengthen the New Auburn community and help grow the fund for generations.

The Seedling Fund is beginning to flourish after being set up at the Community Foundation of Chippewa County. To encourage the community participation and honor those who contribute, donors are recognized with their name shown on The Legacy Tree display at the school. When asked about the display of donors, Scheil reflects “To look back and see the recognition tree, it reminds us that when we plant that seed, it grows into financial strength and shows the students we believe in them.” The tree also sparks interest and enthusiasm from alumni and local individuals, inspiring them to also donate and help the youth of the New Auburn community. “We’re creating a model that can educate students on the importance of paying it forward with the alumni setting an example for graduates to follow,” says Scheil.

A Pass-through scholarship fund is for the benefit of donors who do not desire to establish a permanent scholarship fund but would like to give a one-time gift to be used for a scholarship award(s).

BLOOMER SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOLARSHIP PASS-THROUGH FUNDS
Grants support scholarships for students from the Bloomer School District.

BLOOMER CHIROPRACTIC EXCELLENCE IN MUSIC AWARD SCHOLARSHIP FUND
BLOOMER SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS SCHOLARSHIP FUND
CHIPEWA VALLEY MODEL A CLUB SCHOLARSHIP FUND
CLASS OF 1957 SCHOLARSHIP FUND
GEISSLER PLUMBING SCHOLARSHIP FUND
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SUSAN SKROCH MOHR MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
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DON WEST MEMORIAL ENGINEERING SCHOLARSHIP FUND
WHITETAILS UNLIMITED SCHOLARSHIP FUND

CADOTT SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOLARSHIP PASS-THROUGH FUNDS
Grants support scholarships for students from the Cadott School District.

NEW AUBURN SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM PASS-THROUGH FUNDS
Grants support scholarships for students from the New Auburn School District.

NAHS ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FUND
BLOOMER MASONIC SCHOLARSHIP FUND
CHETEK MASONIC SCHOLARSHIP FUND
CLASS OF 1966 SCHOLARSHIP FUND
EHRHARD SCHOLARSHIP FUND
FFA ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP PFUND
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DOUG NORTH MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
PIRANHA PROPPANT SCHOLARSHIP FUND
SUPERIOR SILICA SANDS SCHOLARSHIP FUND
SYNERGY SCHOLARSHIP FUND
TROWBRIDGE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

STANLEY-BOYD AREA DISTRICT SCHOLARSHIP PASS-THROUGH FUNDS
Grants support scholarships for students from the Stanley-Boyd Area School District.
William and Nancy Pickerign Family Fund

With a strong sense of community and a vision for the future, it was natural for the Pickerign family to fulfill the community needs of generations to come by starting an unrestricted fund at the Community Foundation of Chippewa County (CFCC).

Bill and Nancy Pickerign were married for 59 years with the majority of those years spent in Chippewa Falls. They raised their five kids to have a strong sense of community. “Community was important, so important that Dad wouldn’t let us shop anywhere besides Chippewa Falls,” recalls Cindy Lee, Bill and Nancy’s daughter. “He always said, ‘if they don’t have it in Chippewa Falls, then we don’t need it.’”

Bill began his career as an agricultural teacher after graduating from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls. Eventually, his career pathway brought him to Chippewa Falls, then we don’t need it.’”

“Community was important, so important that Dad wouldn’t let us shop anywhere besides Chippewa Falls,” recalls Cindy Lee, Bill and Nancy’s daughter. “He always said, ‘if they don’t have it in Chippewa Falls, then we don’t need it.’”

“We have a field of interest fund that was started in 2007,” notes Kent Pickerign, son of Bill and Nancy. “Our family faced a tragedy that prompted many donations from surrounding communities. Northwestern Bank made us aware of CFCC just in its early stages, and we decided to start our first fund, The WANE Fire Safety and Prevention Endowment Fund, in memory of our brother’s wife and children. “Seeing their first fund grow to impact every school across Chippewa County proved how much can be accomplished for future generations.

“It’s all about the importance of community and supporting our community’s needs, both current needs and ones we don’t know are coming years from now,” says Nancy Pickerign. “CFCC has such a wide variety of uses for the funds and we thought it would be good for the Board to decide what gifts are granted, now and in the future.”

By leaving their legacy in this fund, future generations will be helped by Bill and Nancy’s community roots and vision for the future.

We gratefully acknowledge and thank our donors for their generous contributions to charitable funds within the Foundation during our fiscal year that ended June 30, 2019.

DONORS

William and Nancy Pickerign Family Fund

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A&A Trucking and
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Sara and George Abenroth
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Leroy and Ann Dahlen
Kris and Mary Dahlen
Dale and Mary Dahlen
HONORARIUMS

A wedding, retirement, anniversary, birthday, a special memory of an event or occasion or a person who touched your life are times when people can be honored with a gift to the Foundation. The following people were honored with a gift to the Foundation during our fiscal year that ended June 30, 2019.

IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

W. K. Kellogg Foundation - Dan and Linda Seng
Mason Companies, Inc. - John Lubs
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ITW Deltar Fasteners - Alan King
BMO Harris Bank N.A. - Paul Salm
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MATCHING GIFTS

Service/Josh Sedlacek & Wissota Dock & Maintenance Foundation
Wisconsin Masonic Association, Inc.

MEMORIALS

During times of great sorrow and times of great joy we look to honor those who will be forever dear to us. A gift in memory of a loved one contributes to a bright future while remembering our past. The following people were remembered with a Memorial Gift to the Foundation during our fiscal year that ended June 30, 2019.

Wipfli LLP
Wiley Law, SC
Seyforth’s Studio & Camera Shop
Mason Companies, Inc.
Duncan Creek Mfg., Inc.
Chi-Hi String Quartet
Avalon Hotel & Conference Center
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Jim and Arlene Wright of Pine Valley
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Mike Tzanakis
Desiree Sorenson
Janelle Schlick
Amelia Schlick
Jane Schill
Melinda Haun’s Retirement Wedding Anniversary
Chad and Amanda Hable’s Eagle Scout Josh Gienapp receiving a gift to the Foundation. The following people were remembered with a Memorial Gift to the Foundation during our fiscal year that ended June 30, 2019.

Jodie Mueller
Hazel “Hess” Morrison
Jodie Mueller

Zwiefelhofer
Ronnie & Kathleen Zwiefelhofer
June Young
Larry Willkom
Dick Wilhelm
Virginia Wermund
Dick Wilhelm
Larry Willkom
Wayne Bonatz
June Young
Rose & Kathleen Zwiefelhofer
Individuals, families, businesses, and organizations dedicated to the long-term viability of our area have made a substantial commitment to the Community Foundation and the causes they care about. Their generosity exemplifies a philanthropic spirit of giving that will help ensure a solid future for our local communities and the Foundation.

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Individuals who generously donated or pledged to secure the Foundation’s original operating funds.

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Estate of John William
“Bill” Leinenkugel
William and Mary Lou Leinenkugel
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Jim and Arlene Wright
Dr. Paul Schaus
David and Jane Schill
The family of Frank “Frankie” Schlick
Georgiann Scritsimer
Darrin and Kim Senn
Greg Senn
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Ingrid Sharrante
Carol Shepard
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2019 GRANTS

Percentages represent grants made from Designated, Donor Advised, Field of Interest, and Unrestricted Funds.

GRANTS

July 1, 2018 thru June 30, 2019

Each year, Community Needs Grants are supported by a growing collection of Unrestricted and Field of Interest Funds in which donors have entrusted the Community Foundation with the decision-making in determining grant recipients based on the donors' interests.

COMMUNITY NEEDS GRANTS

Community Needs Grants are awarded to organizations serving Chippewa County. Grant funding supports: arts and culture, community development, education, environment and animal welfare, and health and human services. Below is a list of the nonprofits supported and the project that was funded:

- **BLOOMER NEW AUBURN FOOD PANTRY - WEEKEND KIDS MEALS**
- **CARDINAL COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER - OUTDOOR ED-VENTURE**
- **CARDINAL COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER - PARENT UNIVERSITY SERIES**
- **CHIPPEWA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF LAND CONSERVATION - LAKE WISSOTA STEWARDSHIP PROJECT**
- **CHIPPEWA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY - LIBRARY COMPUTER PROJECT**
- **CHIPPEWA COUNTY HUMANE ASSOCIATION - MOTIK MICROSCOPE**
- **CHIPPEWA COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COUNCIL - STOP AND THINK EVIDENCE BASED PROGRAMS**
- **CHIPPEWA FALLS BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB - ACADEMIC SUCCESS PROGRAM ENRICHMENT PROJECT**
- **CHIPPEWA FALLS MAIN STREET - FLOWER BEAUTIFICATION**
- **CHIPPEWA FALLS MISSION COALITION - LIGHTEN THE LOAD LAUNDRY ASSISTANCE PROJECT**
- **CHIPPEWA HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PARTNERSHIP - INFANT MENTAL HEALTH**
- **CHIPPEWA VALLEY CULTURAL ASSOCIATION - EXPANDED SENIOR FRIENDLY PROGRAMMING**
- **CHIPPEWA VALLEY FAMILY YMCA - TEACHING CHILDREN HOW TO SWIM**
- **CHIPPEWA VALLEY FREE CLINIC - EXPANDING CHIPPEWA VALLEY FREE CLINIC MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**
- **CHIPPEWA VALLEY VINEYARD CHURCH - FOOD PANTRY IMPROVEMENTS**
- **CHIPPEWA FALLS FIRE DEPARTMENT - THIRD GRADE FIRE PREVENTION AND SAFETY PROGRAM**
- **COMMUNITIES UNITED IN EDUCATION, INC - GENERATIONS JOINED**
- **D.R. MOON LIBRARY - LITTLE TYKES STORYTIME AND ADULT CREATE IT PROGRAM**
- **RIVER SOURCE FAMILY CENTER-CHIPPEWA FALLS GROUP CONNECTIONS**
- **FEED MY PEOPLE FOOD BANK - SMILES FOR SENIORS - EMERGENCY FOOD BOXES**
- **GIRLS ON THE RUN OF CHIPPEWA VALLEY - FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

The public may view governing documents, conflict of interest policies, and the most recent copies of our audited financial statements, IRS Form 990.

To view these during business hours, please call 715.723.8125.

INVESTMENT ADVISOR

ORGEL WEALTH MANAGEMENT

SAMIR MURTY, CFA
MANAGING DIRECTOR
PRINCIPAL

JONATHAN P. IPPEL, CFP
RELATIONSHIP ASSOCIATE

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR

WIPFLI, LLP
LAKE WISSOTA GARDEN CLUB - IRVINE PARK NATIVE WILDFLOWER SANCTUARY

Founded in 1976 with a mission to spread the love of gardening while promoting horticultural and environmental practices that encourage conservation, the Lake Wissota Garden Club (LWGC) seemed like the perfect choice to plant a few flowers in Irvine Park. It was in 2009 when LWGC was given $250 from the Native Tree Project volunteers and tasked with this project. Club members laid out paths that were naturally there from foot traffic, dug plants from their yards and bought flats to add to the open space. Since then, seven flower beds have been identified in the half-acre space that has come to be known as the Irvine Park Wildflower Sanctuary.

Realizing seven beds is too much at one time, the LWGC formed a long-range plan for the sanctuary in 2015-2016. This plan identified beds with the most potential and members began to focus on three main beds. “The recent additions started in the Spring of 2017 when we identified the flowers we wanted to keep and removed what we didn’t. We laid newspaper and mulched the bare spaces,” say Ginger Wierman, member of the LWGC. “We were really energetic but only got half of one bed done. It just took so much more time than we thought.”

In 2018, the LWGC completed the second half of the bed and covered 760 square feet of another bed with plastic in preparation for 2019. They also applied for a grant from the Community Foundation of Chippewa County to help with the project. In May of 2019, they uncovered the prepped bed, put in eight layers of newspaper, 127 bags of mulch and 274 native plants. The grant has helped The Club add to the flower count of the project, bringing the total to 120 varieties that bloom until the frost comes, with one flower that will bloom through the snow.

“We want to demonstrate to visitors that you can grow native Wisconsin flowers in shade and part shade.” Says Wierman. “Whether you prefer a random layout like how you would find it in the woods, how Mother Nature would allow plants to spread, or if you prefer to design a home garden with paths and pockets of flowers around your landscape, each of these beds inspire people to incorporate native plants into their gardens.”

Before each work session, Club members take a walk of the garden to view the blooming flowers as a reward for their hard work. Beds that were cleaned in 2017 have plants that are just spreading now. The Club hopes to finish the three beds by the end of 2021. “Gardening keeps you going. It keeps you young,” claims Wierman.

“Like an oak tree, we are planting for the future.”

NORTHERN BANK SCHOOL MINI-GRANT FUND

Because of Northwestern Bank’s generosity, Mini-Grants are available to Chippewa County 3rd - 8th grade educators to fund innovative teaching, educational learning, and motivational projects or activities. The following schools benefited from the Northwestern Bank School Mini-Grant Fund:

- CADOTT ELEMENTARY - ARTIST & ART HISTORY BOOK COLLECTION
- CHIPPEWA FALLS MIDDLE SCHOOL - TUNING FOR ALL
- CHIPPEWA FALLS MIDDLE SCHOOL - PROJECT BASED LEARNING - ROBOTICS
- CHIPPEWA FALLS MIDDLE SCHOOL VOYAGERS - COMFORTING OUR COMMUNITY – FIDGET BLANKETS
- CORNELL ELEMENTARY - CLASSROOM ECONOMY SYSTEM
- HALMSTAD ELEMENTARY - FLEXIBLE SEATING FOR THE ELEMENTARY CLASSROOM
- HALMSTAD ELEMENTARY - STUDENT AMBASSADORS
- HOLY GHOST ELEMENTARY - PLANT EXPLORATION
- JIM FALLS ELEMENTARY - UKULELE PROJECT
- LAKE HOLCOMBE SCHOOL - MIGHTIER KIDS
- NOTRE DAME MIDDLE SCHOOL TILDEN - REPLACING THE CLASSROOM LIBRARY
- STANLEY BOYD ELEMENTARY - MAKING AUTHORS
- ST. FRANCESCA RESOURCE CENTER - HEALTHY FAMILIES NUTRITION INITIATIVE
- STANLEY AREA FOOD PANTRY - WEEKEND KIDS MEAL PROGRAM
- THRESHOLD SINGERS OF THE CHIPPEWA VALLEY - TABLETS FOR BEDSIDE SINGERS
- WORKFORCE RESOURCE - DISH IT UP-CULINARY ACADEMY
Eager to explore, a black kitten mews and crawls up the walls of a cage in Jess Crosby’s office. It lives with 149 cats, 23 dogs, and two rabbits at the shelter in rural Chippewa Falls. Manager Jess Crosby explained, “The goal is to send animals to good homes in good health.” The Community Foundation of Chippewa County awarded a $900 grant for a Motik medical microscope. Staff uses the microscope to check for ear mites, mange, worms, and overgrowth of gut bacteria. They are also learning about other uses from a veterinary technician. Being able to check for these problems means staff no longer must transport stool samples and animals to a veterinarian. “There’s no better feeling than giving someone a better chance of survival. Doing nothing means they will die for sure,” Cooper said.

The videos have also generated positive results. Patients have made comments like, “I never understood why high blood pressure is so dangerous.” While there are pamphlets in the room, often patients don’t look at them with others around. Visual learning is helpful for many people.

“Open Door Clinic provides basic healthcare services and information about community resources for those who lack insurance or adequate healthcare coverage. The clinic feels strongly about people knowing what to do in an emergency. The clinic coordinator Jill Cooper says, “You never know when you’ll use it.”

A $500 Community Needs Grant from the Community Foundation covered the clinic’s CPR training materials. The clinic was also awarded a $600 Community Needs Grant for a TV and health videos in the waiting room.

Working in cooperation with HSHS Sacred Heart Hospital in Eau Claire, Cooper taught CPR skills to volunteers at the clinic. The grant allowed the clinic to certify 10 volunteers, with 10 more taking CPR training this fall.

“Last year the shelter made 700 adoptions. Having the microscope ensures that every animal leaves with the best care,” Crosby estimated the equipment has saved the shelter $1,000 in nearly six months of use. “The money saving is huge because we strictly run on donations,” Crosby said, noting the shelter receives no state or county funding. “Every penny in the 2019 budget of $263,000 is pretty much accounted for to keep the shelter up and running,” she said. The organization conducts fundraisers for unexpected expenses such as a C-section for a dog and amputations for cats injured by cars. The Community Foundation has previously awarded the shelter grants for washing machines, security cameras, and mold removal.

Girls on the Run of the Chippewa Valley (GOTR-CV) offers hundreds of girls at more than 20 schools throughout the Chippewa Valley. Along with empowering girls through running, the GOTR organization is committed to being accessible and inclusive to all girls, no matter their background, physical capability or any other potential barrier, which is why financial assistance is offered to every single girl in need who wants to participate. “We applied for the grant with the Community Foundation of Chippewa County (CFCC) in order to fund our Financial Assistance Program, especially as we expand into rural communities with greater financial needs,” says Ellie Siedow, Executive Director of GOTR-CV. “The granted funding will help offer all girls from Chippewa County, regardless of their financial situation, the opportunity to participate in our life-changing youth development program.” The program uses trained coaches to teach intentional curriculum that places an emphasis on developing competence, confidence, connection, character, caring and contribution in young girls through lessons that incorporate physical activities, such as running.

GOTR-CV has served hundreds of girls over its 12 years in the community with a recent and ongoing Program Expansion Initiative that has started successful teams in surrounding rural communities. Scholarships are not merit-based and families who face financial struggles are not asked to jump through extra administrative hoops to receive assistance. “By providing funding to support our Financial Assistance Program, this grant has enhanced our ability to fulfill our mission of empowering every girl to reach her limitless potential and boldly pursue her dreams,” says Siedow.

The Financial Assistance Program and the grant for the 2019 season ensured all girls in grades 3-8 throughout the Chippewa Valley had the opportunity to participate in this activity-based positive youth development program, even those who would not otherwise have had the chance. “Smaller nonprofits like ours rely on the support of our local foundations as we work to empower girls to be healthy, joyful and confident,” states Siedow.
LAKE HOLCOMBE SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY THEATER

Building friendships and connecting young people with community members is the heart of the Lake Holcombe Community Theater (LHCT). This connection reaches beyond Lake Holcombe, connecting neighboring communities as cast members travel from Bruce, Ladysmith, Jump River, Bloomer, Cadott, and Cornell to participate. “In small communities, the school is the hub, so basing the theater there and inviting the community in, we reinforce the fact that the school is part of the community,” says Melissa Wojcik, Assistant Director of LHCT. “We want the community to come in and be a part of the school to unify all the communities people come from.”

LHCT has been connecting communities and producing annual shows since 1974 with participants ranging from 9-years-old to 80-years-old. Over the years, the theater grew and shows became larger but they never had enough microphones for the entire cast. The grant from the Community Foundation helped fund additional microphones, doubling their current lot. This helped complete the technical work early on and allowed the cast to practice with the microphones. “It’s hard when a cast puts in so much time and effort, there is so much talent, and they put it out there and the audience can’t hear it,” notes Wojcik. “For a musical, sound is critical and it was seamless this year. The mics helped make it one of the best, if not the best show we have ever done.”

Planning for a production begins in January with auditions in March and rehearsals starting in April. “We are very fortunate to have a lot of talented people who are willing to work hard and be here long hours, and parents willing to bring their kids,” notes Wojcik. “On opening night when the curtain opens, they are singing and acting, the pit is playing, and there is a full gym of people in the audience – all of that hard work comes together.”

The ability to test and practice with the sound equipment earlier was key in the quality of the musical. This aided in less microphone changes and confusion among the more than 50 cast members. “We are grateful for anyone willing to help make our job easier,” says Beth Meddaugh, Director of LHCT. “We really are doing this for the kids and the community. Anything that can help make that better, there is no way to say thank you enough times. This is not an easy task, it is exhausting, long, and emotional. We are so appreciative of any help we get.”

WAYS TO GIVE

We invite you to make a lasting investment in our community.

The Community Foundation of Chippewa County provides a simple, effective, and highly personal approach to giving. We offer a variety of tools to help you achieve your charitable goals. You can make a gift of cash, stocks, bonds, real estate, or other assets to the Foundation. Most charitable gifts qualify for maximum tax advantage under federal law.

We will work with you and if appropriate, your professional advisor, to customize a charitable plan that is right for you. To discuss your charitable interests and the options available, contact our Foundation office to schedule an appointment.

OUTRIGHT GIFT
You can make a gift of cash, stocks, bonds, real estate, or other assets to the Community Foundation of Chippewa County. Your charitable gift qualifies for tax advantage under federal law. Gifts can be made to any of our existing funds in memory or honor of loved ones.

CHARITABLE LEAD TRUST
You can place cash, securities or property into a trust that pays a fixed amount to the Community Foundation for the number of years you select. Once this period ends, the assets held by the trust are transferred to the beneficiaries you name. In some cases, you receive a substantial reduction in federal gift and estate taxes.

BEQUEST BY WILL
You can designate a gift or portion of your estate to the Community Foundation and, in some cases, receive a substantial reduction in federal gift and estate taxes.

CREATE A FUND
We will work with you to create a fund that is tailored to your interests and that will accomplish your goals. Our options are flexible. Your fund can broadly benefit the community or focus on specific issues or organizations. You can establish and build your fund in the ways that work best for your financial and estate plans.
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION (JUNE 30, 2019 & 2018)

ASSETS:
- CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS $436,613 $272,029
- RECEIVABLES - OTHER $20,539,267 $19,346,800
- CASH SURRENDER VALUE OF LIFE INSURANCE $26,214 $38,782

TOTAL ASSETS $21,010,799 $19,672,940

LIABILITIES:
- ACCOUNTS PAYABLE 5,918 259
- ACCRUED PAYROLL 10,538 7,925
- DEFERRED REVENUE 1,000 —
- AGENCY ENDOWMENT AND PASS-THROUGH FUNDS 11,282,671 10,530,486

TOTAL LIABILITIES $11,300,127 $10,538,670

NET ASSETS:
- WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS $947,512 883,804
- WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS $8,763,160 8,250,466

TOTAL NET ASSETS $9,710,672 $9,134,270

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES* (YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019**)

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<th>2019</th>
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<td>TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS, GAINS, AND OTHER SUPPORT:</td>
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| GRANTS AND EXPENSES: |                |             |
| GRANTS AND DISTRIBUTIONS | 2,109,310  | 1,839,499   |
| MANAGEMENT AND GENERAL  | 46,350      | —           |
| PROGRAM SERVICES        | 162,227     | —           |
| ADMINISTRATIVE FEE FOR FUNDS HELD FOR OTHERS | 116,647     | 116,647     |
| FUND-RAISING            | 23,177      | 23,177      |
| TOTAL GRANTS AND EXPENSES | $2,457,711 | $1,956,146  |

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<th>NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR</th>
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<td>$20,993,343</td>
<td>$11,282,671</td>
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*This is a summarized financial statement presentation. Complete and audited financial statements are available upon request. Auditors: Wipfli LLP
**At the time this information was sent to the printer, the final audit report had not been approved.
***The activity of agency and pass-through funds held for other not-for-profit organizations are eliminated from the total statement of activities in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.